



Board of Election Commissioners for the City of Chicago  
Regular Board Meeting  
July 24, 2018, 9:30 a.m.  
69 West Washington Street, 8th Floor Conference Room, Chicago, Illinois 60602

**Board Members:**

Marisel A. Hernandez, Chairwoman  
William J. Kresse, Commissioner/Secretary  
Jonathan T. Swain, Commissioner

**Staff:**

Lance Gough, Executive Director [absent]  
Adam W. Lasker, General Counsel  
Charles Holiday, Assistant Executive  
James P. Allen, Communications Director  
Bill Perez, Coordinator Hispanic Outreach  
Peter Peso, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Lorel Blameuser, Purchasing Agent  
Sarita Villarreal, Consultant  
Geneva Morris, Videographer  
Trish Sheehy

**Guests:**

Sandy Hed, Election Works  
Helene Gabelnick, League of Women Voters of Chicago (LWV Chicago)  
Rachel Leven, Better Government Association (BGA)

- I. Call to Order: The Chairwoman called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM.
- II. Roll Call: All members were present.
- III. Consideration of Agenda: The agenda was accepted as presented.
- IV. Approval of Minutes:
  - A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of June 12, 2018. Commissioner Swain moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of June 12, 2018. Commissioner Kresse seconded the motion. The motion passed and the minutes were approved by a 3:0 vote of the Board.
- V. Executive Director's Report [Mr. Gough was absent from the meeting]. Assistant Executive Director, Charles Holiday presented a combined Executive Director's Report and Assistant Executive Director's Report:

- Yesterday, Mr. Holiday and other Board staff and contractors had a meeting with heads of various City Departments regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
  - We went over the Department of Justice's (DoJ) ADA Checklist of Polling Places.
  - We had short term and long term list of that the City Departments can help us with.
  - General Counsel Adam Lasker added to Mr. Holiday's report: This [ADA compliance of polling places] has been a large project. The meeting yesterday was a major step forward. Mr. Lasker was pleased that every department showed up, including the Corporation Counsel and the Budget Department.
  - Mr. Lasker shared the following highlights from the meeting:
    - We were given a firm commitment from Fleet and Facility Management (2FM) that they will take care of parking signs permanently before the November 2018 election
    - We're starting to get some feedback, communications are moving in both directions between the Board of Elections and the City, and therefore with the DoJ.
    - The Park District thinks that they have already remedied approximately 50 violations that still appear the DoJ list as non-compliant, The Park District will send the list to us and maybe we can resurvey those locations and then they will be done.
    - We have another meeting with the DoJ today.
  - Communications Director Jim Allen said that we had a good exchange and wanted to express a special thanks to the Office of Budget, Benjamin Dieterich in particular.
- A. Assistant Executive Director (see Executive Director's report, above)
- B. Communications Director
  - We are moving ahead on the mail canvass. That should be ready ahead of schedule; it is scheduled to drop August 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup>, maybe sooner. Already discussed this with the Post Office and provided samples.
  - We have our specifications out for printing of various items including signs, forms, envelopes, wrist bands, provisional ballot envelopes and other items for the next three elections. Mr. Allen pointed out that many staff and managers worked hard on this. Special thanks to those who helped including Charles Holiday and Clint Hurd. We were invited to a meeting of The Just Democracy Coalition, which is headed by the Illinois Coalition for Political Campaign Reform. The Law Firm of Latham and Watkins reported on case studies on Vote Centers. The audience included the Better Government Association (BGA), the League of Women Voters (LWV), The Chicago Lawyers' Committee on Civil Rights Under

Law, and Operation PUSH and several others. We received some interesting feedback. Several were very interested in Denver Model.

**VI. Old Business**

- A. Infrastructure Projects and Changes in Election Administration: still in the process of assessing.
- B. Electronic Poll Book: still in process of assessing.
- C. Voting Equipment: still in the process of assessing.
- D. Legislation (General Counsel Adam Lasker)
  - No action on a bill requiring schools to close on Election Day.
  - Governor vetoed the bill on the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC). That was the bill that would have prohibited the State from participating in Cross Check and mandating that the State participate in ERIC. With the Governor vetoing the bill, it means that we will continue using both Cross Check and ERIC.
  - The Governor did sign into law the bill on equipment disclosures to the Illinois State Board of Elections (ISBE), Public Act 100-0623, formerly Senate Bill 2651. We are now going to report every 2 years to the ISBE certain election information including:
    - The age and functionality of each item of voting equipment and general description of the status of the voting equipment. The election authority's perceived need for new voting equipment, and the cost associated with obtaining new equipment.
    - The Public Act has some slight new rules for Vote by Mail applications sent out by a political organization or individual.

**VII. New Business:**

- A. Approval of an amendment to the Board's contract with Veritext Corporation for court reporting services in relation to the 2019 municipal and aldermanic elections

Mr. Lasker reported that things went well with Veritext, the staff said scheduling was easy, there wasn't any tardiness or no shows in the hearings. Things worked smoothly for the objection hearings for the March Primary. We are now gearing up for the 2019 elections. The contract allows for an extension at the same rates. This item is for the Board to approve the extension with the same rates to include the November 2018 and the 2019 elections.

Commissioner Swain asked if the dollar amount would be sufficient for the number of objections expected. Jim Allen stated that we had 425 objections in 2011 (the high water mark) and we will probably have a similar amount for the 2019 round. Mr. Lasker said that he is still discussing with Veritext whether they will have enough reporters or if they will have to subcontract. We may have to

come back to amend the amount; it's dependent on how many petitions come in, etc. Commissioner Swain made a motion to approve Amendment number 1 to the Board's contract with Veritext Corporation for Court Reporting Services in relation to the 2019 Municipal and Aldermanic Elections with a term of September 27, 2018 through September 27, 2019 in an amount not to exceed \$500,000. Commissioner Kresse seconded the motion. The motion passed, and Amendment #1 was approved by unanimous vote of the Board.

**VIII. Legal Report**

- Status of Segovia vs. United States. The Board and Rock Island County Clerk are nominal parties to the case.
  - The U.S. Supreme Court has requested/ordered us to file a response. We have contacted the Illinois Attorney General, who has the duty to represent and defend the State and the People in any legal matter before the U.S. Supreme Court. The Attorney General has again declined.
  - We will be filing our response letter this Friday informing the Supreme Court that we notified the Attorney General and that the Attorney General is not going to defend the State law and, as we had previously done, we will provide history on how the law works and how we operate under the law, but we are not taking a stand for or against it.

**IX. Financial Report**

A. Balance Sheet and Voucher Listings for the City of Chicago – 2018 Appropriation – 18-06 dated July 24, 2018 in the amount of \$349,608.38

Commissioner Kresse moved to approve the Balance Sheet and Voucher Listings for the City of Chicago – 2018 Appropriation – 18-06 dated July 24, 2018 in the amount of \$349,608.38. Commissioner Swain seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote of the Board.

B. Balance Sheet and Voucher Listings for the County of Cook – 2018 Appropriation – 18-06 dated July 24, 2018 in the amount of \$372,569.69

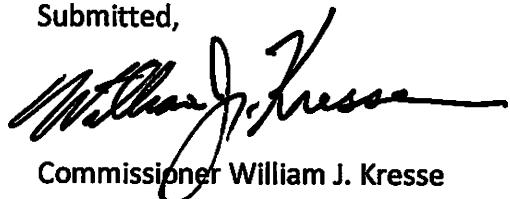
Commissioner Swain moved to approve the Balance Sheet and Voucher Listings for the County of Cook – 2018 Appropriation – 18-06 dated July 24, 2018 in the amount of \$372,569.69. Commissioner Kresse seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 3:0 vote of the Board.

**X. Public Comment: None**

**XI. Executive Session: None**

XII. Adjournment: Commissioner Swain moved to adjourn until the next regularly scheduled meeting on August 14, 2018 at 9:30. Commissioner Kresse seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote of the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 AM

Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William J. Kresse".

Commissioner William J. Kresse  
Secretary